



WHO KNOWS WHAT EVIL LURKS
IN THE HEARTS OF MEN?

25c
NO. 11
JULY
30684

THE
SHADOW

THE SHADOW

THE Shadow

HERO FIGHTS HERO
WHEN
THE Shadow
MEETS
the Avenger!

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
COMIC
BOOK
COUNCIL
AUTHORITY



I hereby certify the following pages to be a true record.
THE **Shadow**

HAHA HAHA



THERE ARE MANY FORMS OF EVIL AND MANY FORMS OF GOOD IN THE WORLD. AT SOME POINT, THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE TWO BECOMES LOST IN A NEBULOUS CLOUD OF IDEOLOGIES. ON THIS NIGHT, IT WILL BE DIFFICULT TO PIERCE THAT CLOUD--VILLAIN WILL CLAW AT VILLAIN...CRUSADER WILL CLUTCH AT CRUSADER! ON THIS NIGHT, THE UNKNOWN WILL MERGE WITH THE MACABRE! ON THIS NIGHT--

the **NIGHT** *of the* **AVENGER!**

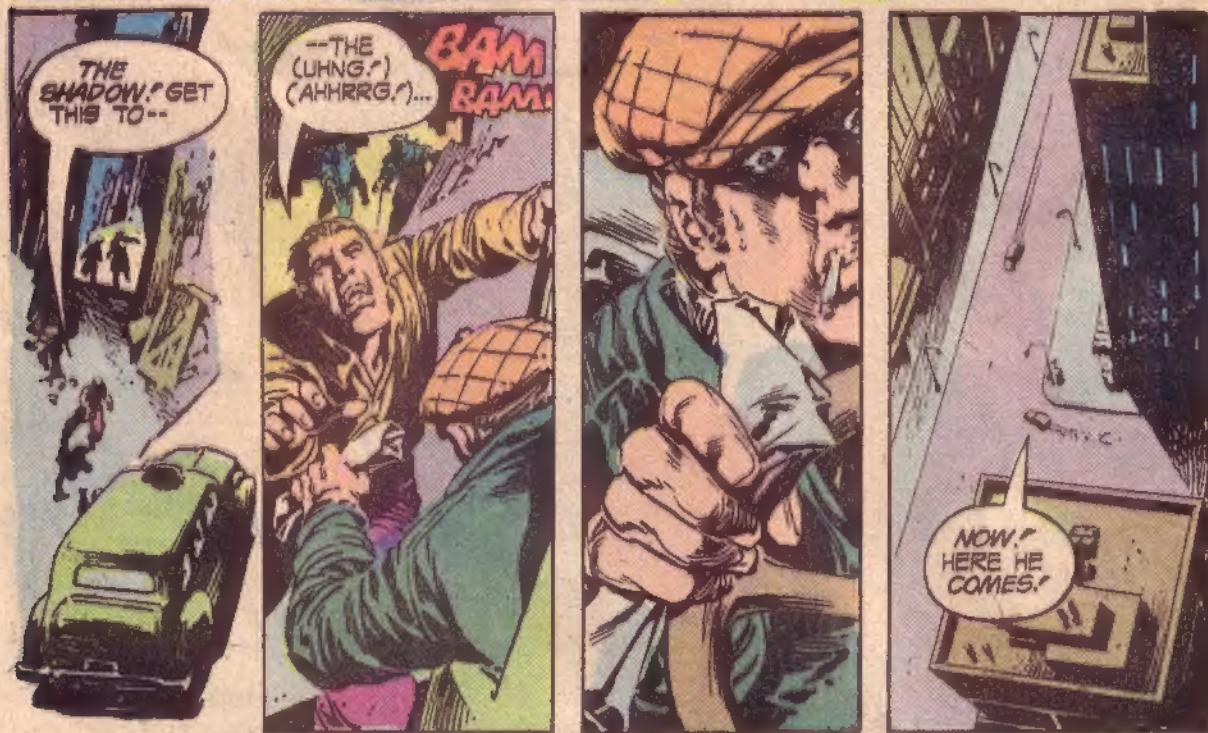
MICHAEL USLAN and *Edgar*
RECONTEURS

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A MYSTERIOUS MESSAGE FOR THE SHADOW--AND WITH MECHANICAL PRECISION, HIS VAST NETWORK OF LOYAL AGENTS DARTS INTO ACTION, ON THE DEADLY STREETS OF CHINATOWN...







AT THAT MOMENT,
A FEW MILES AWAY,
THERE STANDS A
MAN WHO LOOKS
AS IF HE HAS RISEN
FROM A SLAB IN
A MORTUARY...
RICHARD BENSON,
KNOWN AS THE
AVENGER!

MISTER BENSON--
SMITTY AIN'T SHOWIN'
UP, I TELL YE?

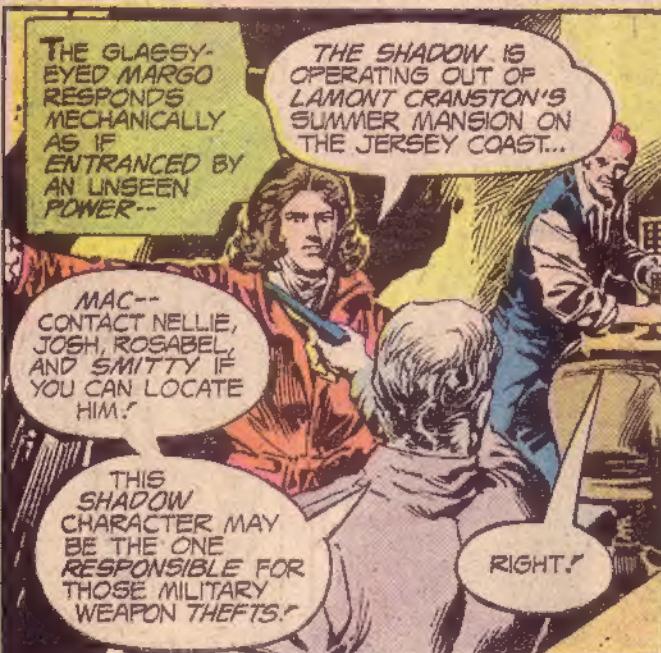
YOU'RE RIGHT,
MACMURDIE! WE'VE
WAITED LONG ENOUGH!
GENERAL MILBERG SAYS
MORE WEAPONS ARE
GONE! ONE COUNTRY IS
ACCUSING ANOTHER AND
THE THREAT OF A NEW
WORLD WAR IS
GROWING!

CLICK!

NOW IT'S AGAIN
TIME FOR JUSTICE,
INCORPORATED TO
CARRY OUT ITS
DUTY! WE--

SUDDENLY-- THE ICE-EYED MAN HEARS A
WEAPON BEING COCKED... WHIRLS... ACTS--!





WEIRD FORCES
ARE TOYING
WITH THE TWO
MOST POWERFUL
VIGILANTE GROUPS
IN THE WORLD!
AT THE SHADOW'S
HEADQUARTERS...

WHAT'RE
YOU READING,
SHREVVY?

ONE OF
THEM COMIC BOOKS,
HARRY! LOOK--
ALL NEW STORIES
IN COLOR FOR A
DIME!

WHAT'LL THEY
THINK OF NEXT?

C'MERE,
SHREVVY! YOU'VE
NEVER MET JERICHO
DRAKE, HAVE YOU?
HE'S ON OUR
SIDE!

HELLO!

QUIET--

SILENCE--
WE HAVE BEEN
UNCOVERED HERE!
I WILL DEAL WITH
THE TRAITOR AMONG
YOU SWIFTLY!

BUT NOW!
WE HAVE A
MISSION--TO
BRING THE JUSTICE
OF THE SHADOW TO
THE AVENGER.
YOU HAVE YOUR
ORDERS.

WHO KNOWS WHAT THOUGHTS
LURK IN THE MIND OF THE
SHADOW?

Margo Lane
Traitor

DEAL, NEW JERSEY--SUMMER REBORT FOR MANY PRESIDENTS AND MANY NEW YORKERS--VACATION HOME FOR SOCIALITE, LAMONT CRANSTON... AND TEMPORARY HAVEN FOR THE LAUGH OF THE SHADOW!

MARGO STILL HASN'T REPORTED IN TO BURBANK? MAYBE SHE--

FORGET MARGO, SHE IS NO LONGER YOUR CONCERN.



YOU AND JERICHO WILL HAVE THE AGENTS MEET ME AT THE SANDY HOOK LIGHTHOUSE-- TONIGHT!



A MIST OF SALT AIR SLINKS ACROSS THE DESERTED JERSEY SAND DUNES THAT NIGHT, CARRYING WITH IT THE STENCH OF EVIL...



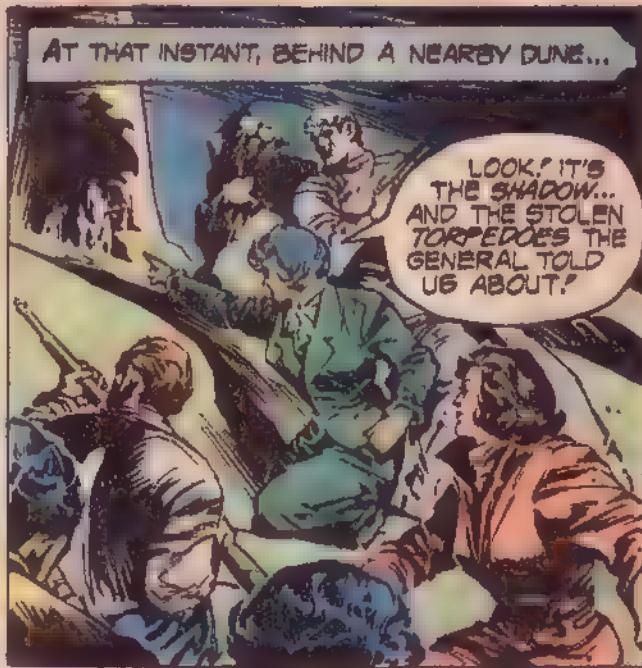
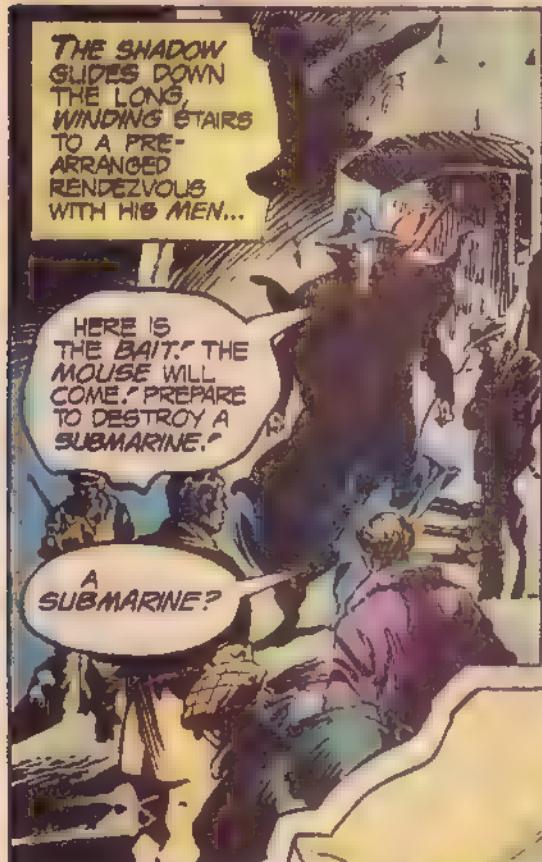
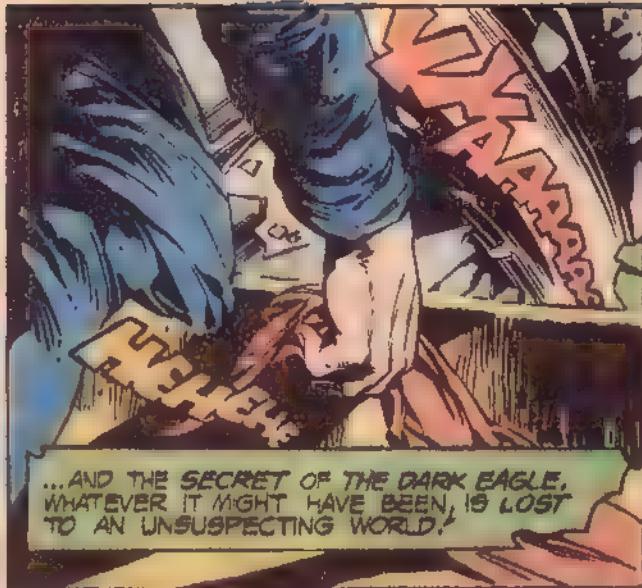
INSIDE THE LIGHTHOUSE, TWO MEN CONFER, UNAWARE THEY ARE OVERHEARD...

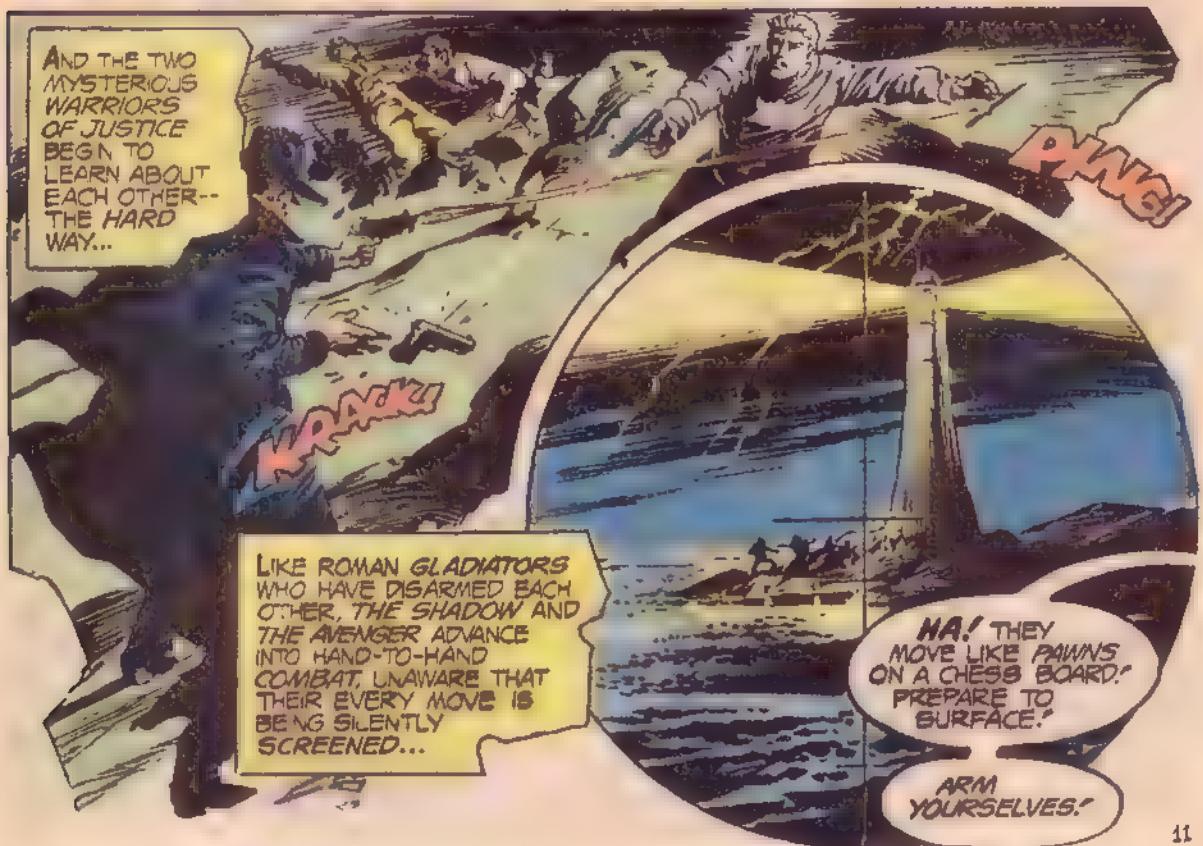
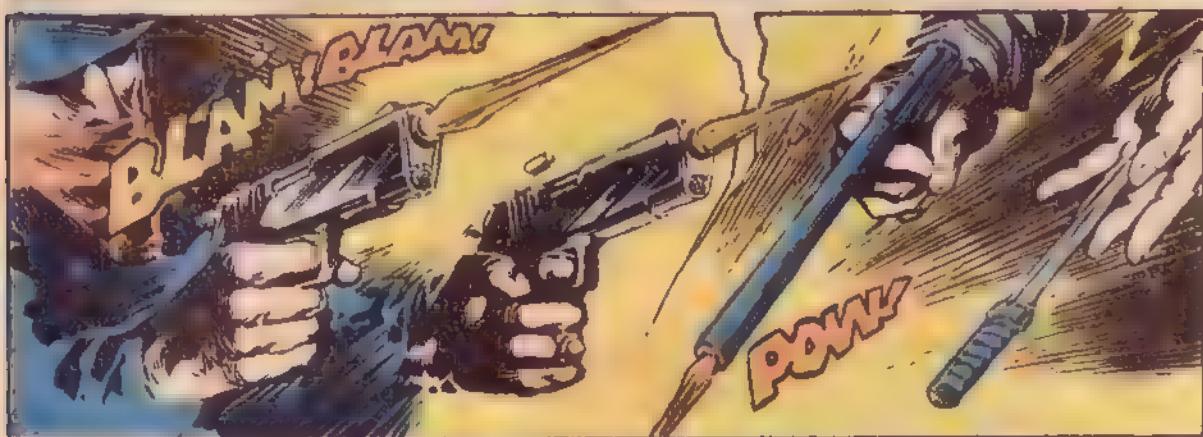


THE MASTER WILL TRULY CONQUER ALL! COME, THE SUB IS DUE!









BUT EVEN PAWNS
CAN SOMETIMES DO
THE UNEXPECTED...

YOUR
FACE?
IT--

STOP! ALL
OF YOU! WE HAVE
BEEN DECEIVED!

YOUR...FACE?
MY REPORTS TELL ME
OF A CRIME-FIGHTER
NAMED RICHARD BENSON
WITH A FACE THAT IS
MALLEABLE LIKE
CLAY!

I AM
BENSON.
AND
YOU--?

I AM...THE
SHADOW! I
DESTROY
CRIME!

YOU NOW CALL
YOURSELF "THE" AVENGER?
IS THAT NOT A BIT
VAIN?

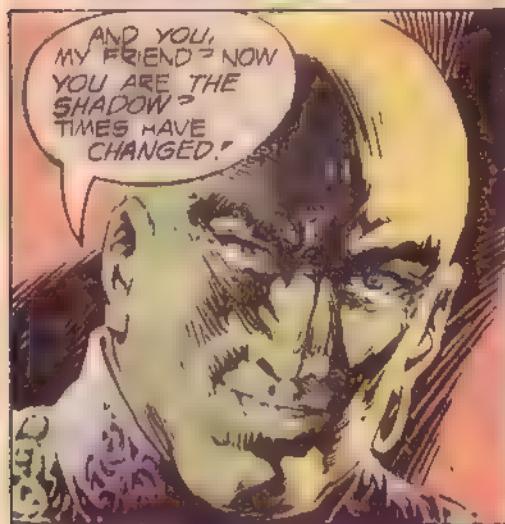
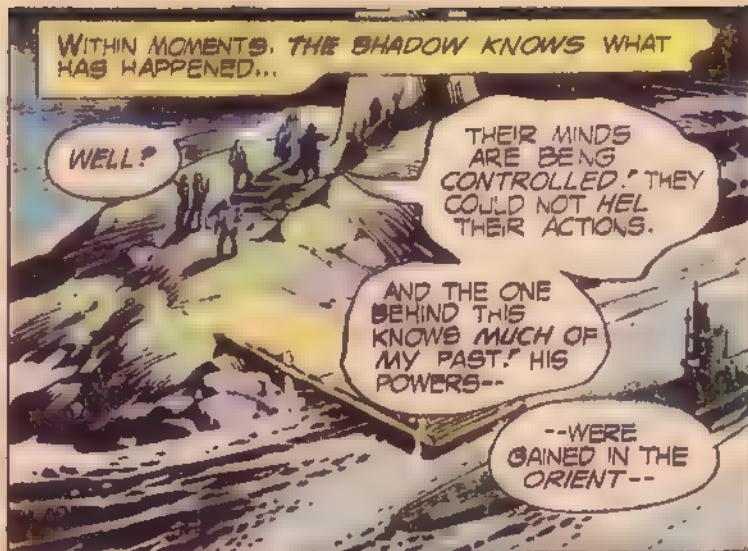
PERHAPS...IF I
THOUGHT MYSELF HOLY
ENOUGH TO SIMPLY
DISPOSE OF EVIL RATHER
THAN LET JUSTICE
DICTATE THE COURSE!

AN ETERNAL
SECOND OF
SILENT TENSION
MOUNTS BETWEEN
THE TWO FORCES
OF GOOD. THEN IT
IS SUDDENLY
BROKEN BY
A LOUD
COMMAND...

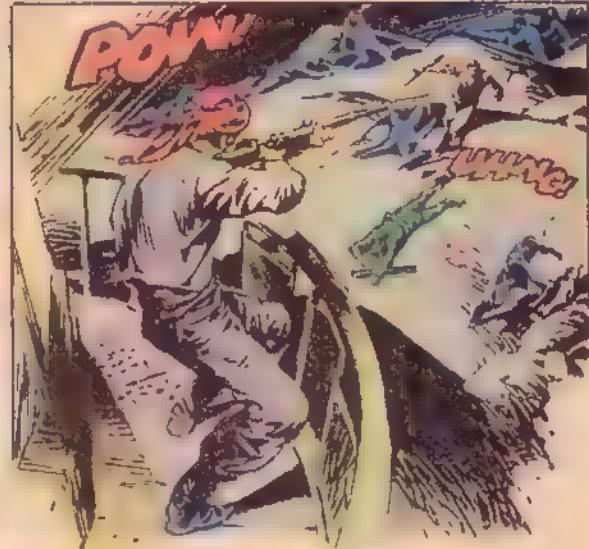
HARRY! BRING
MARGO HERE! JERICHO!
BRING FORWARD THE
AVENGER'S AIDE! I
WILL FIND OUT WHY THEY
ATTEMPTED MURDER BY
PIERCING THE DEPTHS
OF THEIR MINDS!

NO
TRICKS,
MISTER!

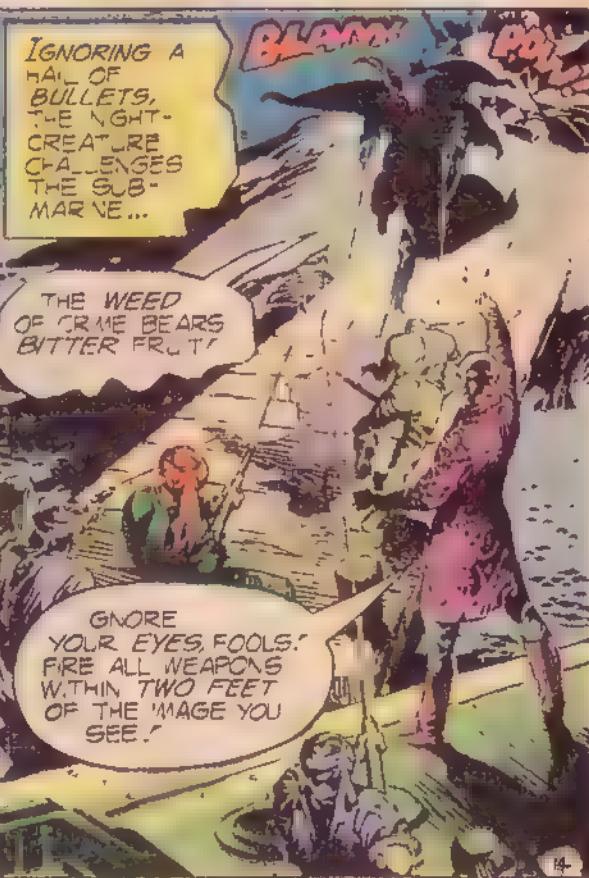
I HAVE MY
METHODS! I DO
NOT ASK FOR YOUR
APPROVAL, BUT I
DEMAND YOUR
RESPECT!

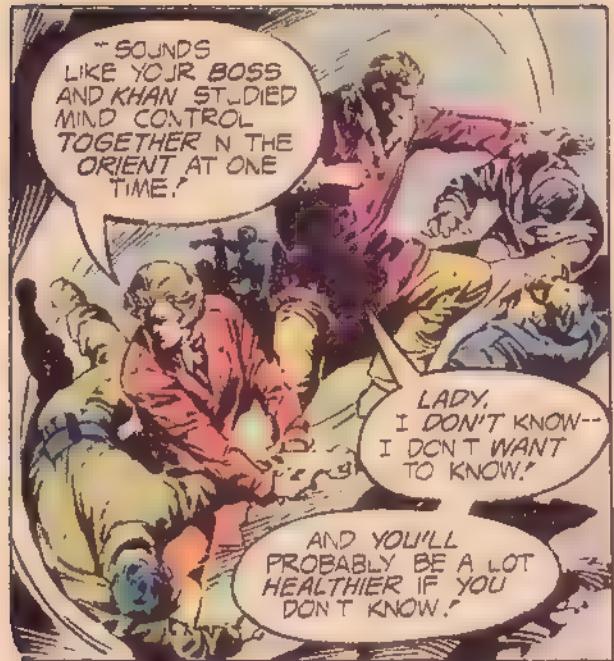


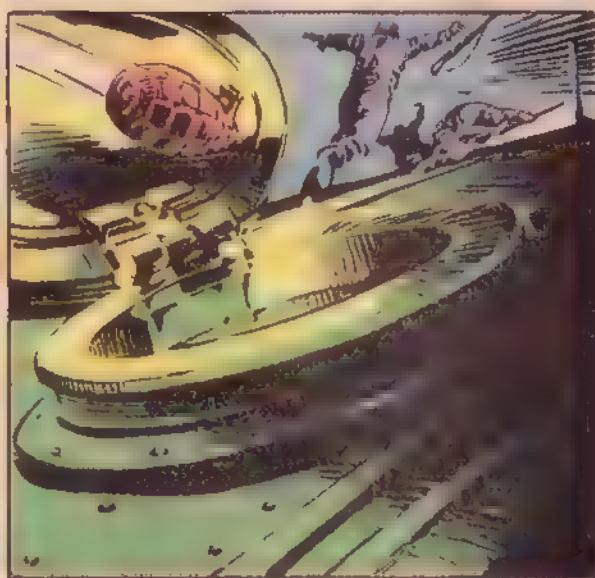
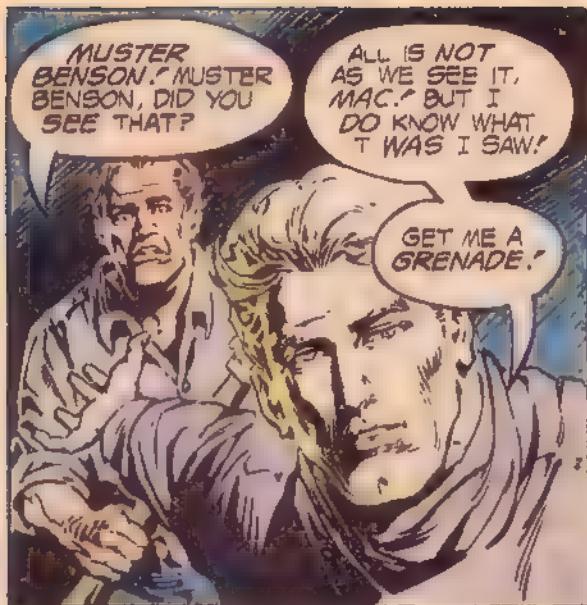
A POWER-MAD PRATE,
SOMEHOW LINKED TO
THE VAGUE PAST OF
THE MAN WHO IS
AFTER HIS BLOOD--
KHAN'S ARMY WITH
STOLEN MILITARY
WEAPONS COULD TAKE
OVER COUNTRY AFTER
COUNTRY IF NOT
STOPPED HERE--NOW.
AND EVERYONE
KNOWS IT!*



AS THE WOUNDED JOSH FALLS,
RICHARD BENSON DOES WHAT HE
DOES BEST-- AVENGE!*











THE Shadow KNOWS

Z-271



Up front, I've got to thank trusty assistant Allan Asherman and good buddy Tony Tollin for filling this space while I was away vacationing and, when I returned, buried in the details of launching three new titles: *Beowulf*, *Justice Inc.*, and *Kung Fu Fighter*. (Yes, folks, an unabashed plug.)

A lot has happened—most notably, the hiring of a new artist. Herewith, I go on record: I think E.R. Cruz is the best yet. His version of the Shadow seems to me pretty close to the definitive one. Your opinion?

Now, to the mails . . .

Dear Denny and Allan:

"Night of the Falling Death" did justify the enthusiastic comments I'd heard about it. Michael Uslan's debut as a writer was very successful and was, to be honest, far more interesting and tightly plotted than most of Denny O'Neil's own Shadow scripts. It wasn't hard to guess the identities of the Ninja or the Mummy, but the "Murdock" business caught me completely by surprise. Very good work.

Richard Morrissey, Framingham, Mass.

Gentlemen:

Having just purchased **Shadow** #9, "Night of the Falling Death," I must admit to extreme disappointment and dissatisfaction in the efforts of Michael Uslan to supplant Denny O'Neil as a storyteller and in Uslan's almost total lack of understanding of the character and story he is supposed to be presenting.

Rich Durham, Florham Park, N.J.

Taken together, the above two letters need no comment. Maybe just a tear or two . . .

Dear Sirs:

The following poem is a collage of different experiences on my part: Doc Savage paperbacks from the flea market, finding an old copy of *The Spirit* in the basement among piles of newspaper, listening to *The Shadow* on the old time radio station, my father's account of when he saw *Dracula* at the midnight showing of the cinema. But a huge part of it is the DC *Shadow*, which engendered the thought about morality. I hope it gives you a fraction of the joy that your magazine has given me.

In the shadowy-spirit days of adolescence
The hit-men skulked in pretty corners.
The only thing a hero needed
Was a pair of pistols and a haunting laugh.
Causes were as plentiful as gun-runners.
And bootleggers were always good for an issue
brawl or so.

The crunching-gravel alleyways of the old neighborhood
Held heroes, villains by the score
(Where did Evil Brain meet the Man of Bronze)
And I did my wildest deeds in the Saturday matinees.

I guess that things were different then.

Now, you can't tell the heroes

From the villains without a tabloid.

And the only shadow falls

Where strict choices of black and white
Used to be.

(for my father, 2/11/74.)

Ms. Bernadette Lynn Bosky,
Greencastle, Ind.

I'm sorry we don't have space to print the whole of your letter, Bernadette, but I did want to get that very nice poem in.

Dear Denny,

I was looking over *The Shadow* and I noticed that the beginning was quite similar to the beginning of a *Shadow* radio show. I heard it a few times on that Jack Benny-narrated Golden Era of radio album. I wonder if Mike stole the idea from some poor radio scripter of decades past.

Robert Greenberger, Jericho, N.Y.

'Fraid Mike would probably plead guilty, Bob.

Dear Denny,

This is terrible! "Night of Neptune's Death / of the Ninja / of the Beast / of the Mummy? of the Falling Death!

The *Shadow* has really bad nights! Honest, can't you brilliant people think of better titles?

Jim DeLorenzo, Trenton, N.J.

Not the first such complaint we've heard, Jim.
Comments from other Shadowphiles?

Dear Sirs:

Recently on the letters page I've noticed that there has been considerable talk of revealing the *Shadow*'s origin. Although I am as curious as everyone else, I feel you should not do this. Such an action would lessen the aura of mystery about the *Shadow* and the magazine's quality would diminish.

Kerry Kirspel, Shreveport, La.

*So the Great Origin Controversy continues . . . Slightly more than half of you who have been concerned enough to write us feel, as does Kerry, that we should leave the Dark Avenger's origin . . . dark. A couple of months ago I had the extreme pleasure of spending an afternoon with the great Walter Gibson, the near genius who wrote *The Shadow*'s earliest adventures and, among other questions, I asked him about an origin story. Well, it does exist, in one of Walter's *Shadow* novels, but I don't think we can possibly do it justice in our 18 page format. Three possibilities: First, we can present it as a continued story, in two issues. Or, second, we can wait until we have more pages to play with. Or we can forget the whole matter. What say you?*

Till next time . . . You know what bears bitter fruit, and you know who knows it.



*the fun is
standard
EQUIPMENT*

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So you want a bike that's fun to ride. And, it doesn't need a lot of fixing.

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And the lightweight brazed steel frame keeps the Grade I's weight trimmed down to 30 pounds. The less pounds you have to pedal, the more fun you'll have.

See the Great Browning Grade I Ten Speed at your Browning Dealer's today. And write for our bicycle catalog. It's got details on Three Speeds

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